

JPW



PATENTS

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application:	10/777,324	Examiner:	BUI, VY Q
Filed:	February 12, 2004	Art Unit:	3763
Inventor:	Voegele et al.	Atty Ref.:	END5016USNP
Title:	FINGERTIP SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS		

TRANSMITTAL

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing are the following papers for the above-referenced patent application:

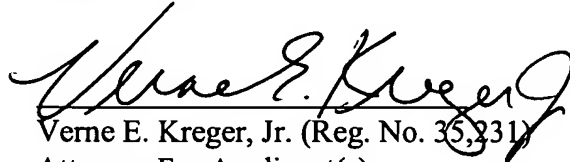
1. This Transmittal Sheet
2. Fourth Supplemental IDS, Form 1449
3. Self-addressed postage prepaid return receipt postcard.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	Number of Claims	Highest Previous Paid For	Extra Claims	Rate	Fee (Dollars)
Total Claims			0	x \$50 =	0
Independent Claims			0	x \$200 =	0
					0
Submission of IDS					\$0.00
					0
TOTAL FEE DUE					\$0.00

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/END5016USNP/VEK, including any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.18.

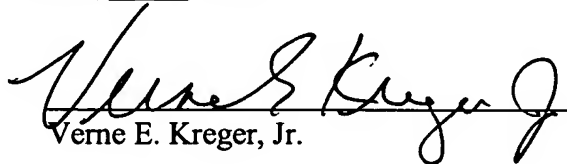
Respectfully submitted,


Verne E. Kreger, Jr. (Reg. No. 35,231)
Attorney For Applicant(s)

Johnson & Johnson
One Johnson & Johnson Plaza
New Brunswick, NJ 08933
Tel: (513) 337-3295

Certificate of Mailing

The undersigned certifies that this correspondence was deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail and addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" on May 3, 2006.


Verne E. Kreger, Jr.



Docket No. END5016USNP

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : James W. Voegelé, et al.

Serial No. : 10/777,324

Art Unit: 3763

Filed : February 12, 2004

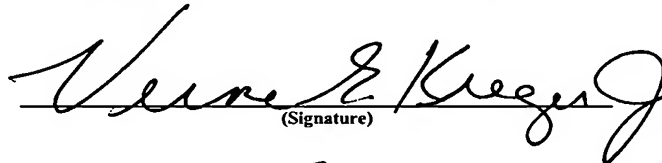
Examiner: Bui, Vy Q

Title : FINGERTIP SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed
to: Commissioner For Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

May 3, 2006
(Date of Deposit)

Verne E. Kreger, Jr.
(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)


(Signature)

May 3, 2006
(Date of Signature)

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, information
relating to the above-identified application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in this

statement is not to be construed as an admission that this information is material as that term is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist.

☒ In accordance with §1.97(b), since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national application (other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d)), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of the above identified application as set forth in §1.491, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, no additional fee is required.

☐ In accordance with §1.129(a), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in connection with ☐ the first or ☐ second After Final Submission, therefore:

☐ Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) (attached); or

☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ / the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

☐ In accordance with §1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth in §1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution and that it is accompanied by one of:

☐ Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) (attached); or

☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ / the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

☐ In accordance with §1.97(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311 but before the payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. Included are: Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) as set forth below and the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

☐ Copies of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith.

☒ Copies of references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith EXCEPT U.S. patents and published applications.

☐ In view of the voluminous nature of references [list as appropriate], and the likelihood that these references are available to the Examiner, copies are not enclosed herewith.

☐ If any of the foregoing publications are not available to the Examiner, Applicant will endeavor to supply copies at the Examiner's request.

☒ For listed references not in the English language, a translation or abstract has been provided.

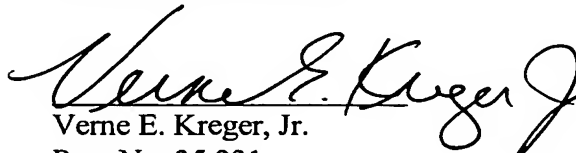
☐ The relevance of those listed references which are not in the English language is as follows:

☐ Attached are copies of search report(s) from corresponding patent application(s), which are listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

☐ Attached are the following non-published pending patent applications which may be deemed relevant, which are listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/END5016USNP/VEK.

Respectfully submitted,



Verne E. Kreger, Jr.
Reg. No. 35,231
Attorney for Applicants

Johnson & Johnson
One Johnson & Johnson Plaza
New Brunswick, NJ 08933-7003
(513) 337-3295
DATED: May 3, 2006



PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Application Number	10/777,324
Filing Date	February 12, 2004
First Named Inventor	Voegele, James, et al.
Group Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	BUI, VY Q
Attorney Docket Number	END-5016USNP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		288,096	A	Richard J. Morgan	11-06-1883	ALL
		987,095	A	Frank M. Bonta	03-14-1911	ALL
		2,819,521	A	Henry W. Parker	01-14-1953	ALL
		3,399,456	A	Gary L. Johnson, et al.	09-03-1968	ALL
		3,407,816	A	Pedro Domingo Curutchet	02-16-1966	ALL
		3,735,426	A	Eduard Horvath	05-29-1973	ALL
		3,744,883	A	Wilfred A. Williams	07-10-1973	ALL
		3,862,507	A	Emerson F. Martyn	01-28-1975	ALL
		3,971,270	A	Joseph T. Wallace	07-27-1976	ALL
		4,337,496	A	Gerald Laird	06-29-1982	ALL
		4,827,930	A	George Kees, Jr.	05-09-1989	ALL
		6,776,616	B2	Jeffrey Dryer	08-17-2004	ALL
		6,213,952	B1	Alexander Finarov, et al.	04-10-2001	ALL
		6,944,914	B2	Stephen L. Tilliman	09-20-2005	ALL

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵				

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
-----------------------	--------------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

END5016USNP

-1-

10/777,324